

## ABSTRACT

5       The present invention relates to transgenic animals, as well as compositions and  
methods relating to the characterization of gene function. Specifically, the present  
invention provides transgenic mice comprising mutations in the magnesium-dependent  
protein phosphatase gene. Such transgenic mice are useful as models for disease and for  
identifying agents that modulate gene expression and gene function, and as potential  
treatments for various disease states and disease conditions.

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